A REVIEW OF THE Affairs of *FRANCE*:

With Obſervations on TRANSACTIONS at Home.

Thurſday, May 31. 1705.

I Confeſs, the Unpleaſanteſt part of this Work, from the beginning of it, has been the Interruptions frequently given the Reader and my ſelf, by the Apologies and Defences I have been Oblig'd to make, by the Various Attacks and Aſſaults of the Ill Wiſhers to this Undertaking; and 'tis with ſuch Iskſome and Unwilling Neceſſity, I do it, that I every time think it ſhall be the laſt.

The Enemies to Peace are not a few, and he that Preaches a Doctrine Men care not to follow, when they cannot Object againſt the Subject, they will againſt the Man.

He's no Scholar, ſays one, That may be True: he was Apprentice to an Hoſier, ſays another, That's Falſe; and adds to the Number of the Intollerable Liberties Dr. *B*——— and Mr. *Obſervator*, give Themſelves; he having never been a Hoſier, or an Apprentice.

But he has been a Trader, that's True; and therefore muſt know no *Latin*———Excellent Logick this, like Dr. *B*———'s Moon-blind Conſiſtency, in his Book call'd, *The Moon-Calf*, where pretending to Banter the Author of the *Conſolidator*, in the firſt Paragraph he tells us, " That there has been no Communication be- " tween this World, and that in the Moon, " for many Ages. And in the next tells us, " Of an Account come from this World, by " the very laſt Poſt, *Oportet Mendacem eſſe " Memoriam*. Moon-Calf, *Page* 1.

Aſſerting of Falſhoods provokes me not, Perſonal Reflection, is none of my Buſineſs in this Paper, nor none of theirs.

Thoſe Gentlemen that Reproach my Learning, to Applaud their own, ſhall have it proved, I have more Learning than either of them ——— Becauſe I have more Manners.

I have often Advanc'd it, as my Opinion, That when an Enemy begins to Rave, he is certainly Beaten, and muſt be allow'd to Quote a Poet on this Head; tho' on the other ſide,

That Diſputants, when Reaſons fail,
Have one ſure Shift, and that's to Rail.

Aſſerting of Falſhoods, I ſay, provokes me not, a Refuge of Lies, will in the End, Expoſe the Authors and not the Adverſary; and my Concern at Raillery and Forgery, is not in the leaſt the Cauſe of my Defending my ſelf in this Paper.

I have no Concern to tell Dr. *B*——— I can Read *Engliſh*, or to tell Mr. *Tutchin* I underſtand *Latin*, *Non ita Latinus ſum ut Latine Loqui*——— I eaſily acknowledge my ſelf Blockhead enough, to have loſt the Fluency of

Expreſſion in the *Latin*, and ſo far Trade has been a Prejudice to me; and yet I think I owe this Juſtice to my Ancient Father, yet Living, and in whoſe Behalf I freely Teſtifie that if I am a Blockhead, it was no Bodies Fault but my own; he having ſpar'd nothing in my Education, that might Qualifie me to Match the Accurate Dr. *B*——— or the Learned *Obſervator*.

If therefore, I ſay any thing on my own Behalf here, Gentlemen, which is not worth your while to Read, Pardon the Digreſſion, all my Friends judge for me, that I ought to ſay ſo much at leaſt as may Convince Poſterity, That the Writer of theſe Papers had ſome Reaſon to know what he ſaid; and for their ſakes, who in Reading theſe Sheets are ſtumbled at the Character of the Man; and for their ſakes, who may ſee theſe Calumnies, when the Author is on the other ſide of Time, and can ſay nothing for himſelf.

How ſhould this Fellow know theſe Things? And on what Ground can he have the Face to Aſſert what he does? This is the Language of the Enemies to this Paper; he was Bred a Mechanick, had no Education; and the *Obſervator*, an Author of his own Party, Upbraids him as an Illiterate Fellow.

Why really, Gentlemen, this is very hard; but I'll be very ſhort with theſe Gentlemen.

As to my Inſufficiency for the vaſt Undertaking of theſe Papers, no Man knows it ſo well as my ſelf; and many a Gap in the real Capacity, I am fain to ſupply with Induſtrious Search of Books and Precedents; and other Mens more Polite Knowledge, is a great Aſſiſtance to my Imperfection; and if any Gentleman of equal Zeal for Truth, and of Superior Genius, will attempt this Work, ſuch is my Sincere Deſire to have it well done, I'll freely reſign it to him, nay, even to Mr. *Obſervator* himſelf, if he will ſay he can carry it on with Temper, Integrity, and Effect; and by this I will demonſtrate, That the Profits of this Paper, *none of which I have yet ſeen*, have not been the Occaſion of its Writing, as ſome have baſely Inſinuated to the World.

As to Mr. *Tutchin*, I never gave him the leaſt Affront, I have even after baſe Uſage from him, in vain Invited him to Peace; in Anſwer to which, he returns Unmannerly Inſults, Lyes, Calumnies, and Reproach.

To theſe I Anſwer him doubly.

1. As to my little Learning, and his great Capacity, I fairly Challeng'd him, in a Letter I ſent him Yeſterday, and which I now Renew,

"That I'll take any *Latin* Author he ſhall "Name, and with is one *French*, and one *Italian*, and I'll Tranſlate them into *Engliſh*, "and after that Re-tranſlate them *Croſs-wiſe*, "the *Engliſh* into *French*, the *French* into *Italian*, and the *Italian* into *Latin*; and this I "Challenge him to perform with him, who "does it ſooneſt and beſt for 20 *l.* each Book; "and by this he ſhall have an Opportunity to "ſhow the World, how much *De Foe* the Ho"ſier, is Inferior in Learning, to Mr. *Tutchin* "the Gentleman.

As to his Ill Language, his profeſs'd Reſolution to Expoſe me, his Abuſive Treatment of me with his Tongue, *for he dare not do it with his Hands*, I'll finiſh all my Replys of this ſort, with telling him a Story; and if this wont do, I'll tell him another.

Two Dogs Liv'd near one another, a Black and a Brown———Black, *That was more addicted to Bark than to Bite*, would always run Baying and Barking after *Brown*, whenever he went by; *Brown* took no Notice of him a long time, but being once *more than uſually* Teiz'd and Provok'd, he Gravely turn'd about, ſmells at *Black*, and finding him of a Curriſh Cowardly Breed, and not worth his Notice, very Soberly and Unconcern'd, he holds up one Leg, Piſſes upon him, and ſo goes on about his Buſineſs. *And ſo do I.*

I am now to Defend my ſelf againſt a much ſuperior Antagoniſt, both for Learning and Language, but Unhappy in being equally Obſtinate in advancing poſitive Falſhood, and at the ſame time Detecting, as he calls them, the Lyes of the *Review*.

And this Inſtance is in what the *Review* has ſaid of the ſetting up the Queen's Motto of *Semper Eadem* at *Oxford*, under a Weather-Cock———

I may be Impoſed upon, and Inadverrently may Publiſh what may not be poſitively True, and if ever I am ſo, and know it, no Man ſhall be forwarder to own it than I, in as Publick a Manner as poſſible; and in this I ſhall, I hope, ſhow my ſelf an Honeſt Man, and pay that Homage all Men owe to Truth: And as this

Author,

Author, by Title, Mr. *Rehearſal*, Challenges me with Lying; and yet even in this, which is the Caſe of *Oxford*, it is his Misfortune that the Fact is True; and tho' I am Inform'd the Gentlemen at *Oxford* have taken care to Demoliſh the Trophy, and perhaps it might be Unwarily done, as one Author has already ſaid in its Defence, yet that it was ſo, *beſide other Proof*, take the Words of one of their own Side, who pretends to Vindicate the Thing, and who is Angry that I do not Publiſh it; where he ſays, "At *Merton* "College, the King's-Arms uſed to be ſet up "upon the Fanes of the Buildings, and one of "theſe being to be Repair'd, the Workman did "it Ignorantly.

This is making ſome Excuſe for it, but is far from Denying the Fact.

Now when this Advocate is firſt Confuted, then Mr. *Rehearſal* ſhall have a farther Account of the Fact, from the *Review*; and 'till then, I think it ſtands Confirm'd by their own Voucher.

Recrimination is no Step to a Defence, and I deſire it may not be taken for part of mine, but I cannot but obſerve, That the Gentleman who ſays this, Advanc'd one of the moſt palpable Forgeries, and moſt Imprudently manag'd, that this Age has ſeen in Print; and being Decently Reproved for it, has not to this Hour thought fit to Vindicate, or Acknowledge it. The Fact is as follows.

He tells us, in one of his *Rehearſals*, "That "in the Quarrel between Sir *G. Rook*'s Friends, "and Mr. *Colepeper*, the Latter would not "Fight, till Mr. *Denew* was Oblig'd to Cane "him, to raiſe his Courage, or to this Effect: For which, I appeal to his Paper.

Now, as there is not one Word of this True, nor of mine raiſe, I leave the World to Judge between the Papers call'd the *Review*, and the *Rehearſal*, by the Veracity of their Authors.

For Mr. *Denew*, at his Tryal, to clear himſelf from the Charge of an Aſſaſſine, for which he was Indicted, Swears and brings Witneſſes to prove, "That he never Struck Mr *Colepeper* "at all, but that on the contrary, Mr. *Cole-* "*peper* drew his Sword firſt.

In this Manner, Gentlemen, is this poor Paper Attack'd both by Friend and Foe, Envy or Enmity, gives the Author no reſt, and while he is preſſing all the World to Peace, Wars are Rais'd againſt him, on every Side.

His own Defence is nothing, but his Integrity and Care in what he Writes muſt ſuffer no Scandal that can be avoided; and he Reſolves in every Charge, to let the Matter of Fact be his Anſwer; if he is wrong, it ſhall be *Acknowledgment*, if right, a *Defence*; and the Thing, not the Perſon Accuſing, ſhall be what, on all theſe Occaſions, he will regard, in order to leave behind him the Volumes of the *Reviews*, *whatever their Author may be*, as Unexceptionable as poſſible.

In like manner, I muſt Defend the Juſt Derivation of my made Word *Solunaria*. The Signification of it, I have Explain'd to be *South-lunaria*; Mr. *Tutchin* will have this be Ignorance of the *Latin*, but, I think, if he was not in a Plot to Expoſe himſelf he would have Drop'd it.

He will have me to put *Sol* for South, and then I would Gladly know of him, What *Unaria* could mean? For it was Spelt with a Single *l*.

I fairly Divide the Word thus, *So-lunaria*, for *South Lunaria*; and I appeal to Cuſtom and Example for my Authority, and refer it to all the Learned World to judge.

Millions of Examples, I believe, are in the World of this manner of Abbreviation in all Languages; but not to go farther than our own Doors, *Suſ-ſex*, *Nor-folk*, *Su-rey*, *Eſſ-ex*, *Suf-folk* —— *No-Nor-Weſt*, *Sou-South Eaſt* —— And Innumerable others, are my Juſtification, and he need not Ramble to the Moon for a Clearer Information to his Underſtanding.

A Gentleman who ſent a Letter about the *Profits of the Review*, Sign'd, *A. B.* &c. has an Anſwer left for him at Mr. *Matthew*'s.

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